

REMARKS

A Notice of Allowance was mailed on January 12, 2004. After receiving the Notice of Allowance, Applicants received a Korean Office Action with newly cited prior art, and submitted the prior art in an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on February 19, 2004. In view of the prior art cited in the IDS, Applicants have filed the present RCE and Amendment.

Applicants have not yet received an initialed and signed copy of the Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to return a signed copy of the Form PTO-1449.

Claims 1-6, 10-19, and 27-37 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended, and new claims 27-37 have been added by the present amendment. Claims 7-9 and 20-26 have been canceled without prejudice. The amendments are fully supported by the specification as originally filed.

The drawings have been amended to add the legend "PRIOR ART" to FIGS. 19, 20(a), 20(b), 21(a), 21(b), and 23. No new matter is added. Approval of the replacement drawing sheets is respectfully requested.

Independent claims 1, 27, and 32 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 8, which has been canceled. Claim 1 recites a disc projected section provided in an inner circumference part of the disc, and where the connecting means is a movable projecting section, so that one end of the movable projecting section is received in a recessed section of the disc projected section (see, e.g., specification at page 27, line 13 to page 29, line 1; FIG. 6).

Claim 27 includes the subject matter of original claims 1 and 9, thereby reciting that the connecting means is a disc holding lock having one end positioned in a ditch provided on a side wall of the disc cover, and an opposite end capable of rotating over the outer circumference part of the disc (see, e.g., specification at page 30, line 2 to page 31, line 19; FIGS. 7(a) and 7(b)).

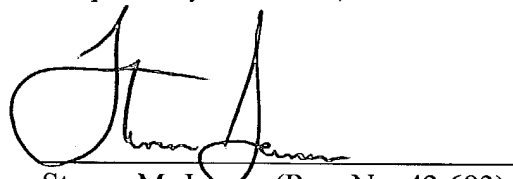
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Claim 32 includes the subject matter of original claims 1 and 20, thereby reciting that the disc cover includes a shutter for switching between an open position in which the surface for recording/reproducing of the disc is exposed, and a closed position (see, e.g., specification at page 35, line 19 to page 38, line 5; FIGS. 10(a), 10(b), 11(a), 11(b), 12(a), 12(b), 13(a), and 13(b)).

In accordance with the above amendments, the Applicants' claimed invention patentably distinguishes over all known prior art references, including the references cited in the IDS filed on February 19, 2004.

It is believed the application is in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven M. Jensen", is written over a horizontal line.

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